

Comprehensive Plan Update Public Involvement Summary

Overview

King County regulations require the Department of Development and Environmental Services (DDES) to update the County Comprehensive Plan every four years. In November 2003 and January 2004 DDES staff, assisted by the Department of Transportation Community Relations and Communication section, conducted outreach in six communities affected by proposed changes to the Comprehensive Plan. These communities were Woodinville, Auburn, Vashon, Fairwood (Renton), Black Diamond, and Duvall.

Staff members presented a public review draft of proposed changes to the Comprehensive Plan and related codes. Comments from participants were directed at the specific changes proposed in each community. With a few exceptions that will be noted in this summary, participants primarily supported staff proposals.

Outreach and Results

Invitations to the public meetings were mailed to the following groups:

- More than 700 were mailed to individuals who had participated in earlier Comprehensive Plan outreach meetings or had expressed an interest in attending subsequent meetings;
- Approximately 400 were mailed to public libraries and city halls associated with the six communities;
- Several hundred were mailed to owners of property adjacent to affected areas;
- Approximately 200 were mailed to agencies and other organizations with interest in the proposed changes.

In addition, news releases were sent to all major and local newspapers serving the identified communities.

All meetings were well attended by members of the respective communities (see table below).

Meeting Date	Location	Number of Attendees
Wednesday, November 5	Leota Junior High School, Woodinville	54
Thursday, November 6	Lea Hill Elementary School, Auburn	62
Monday, November 17	Chautauqua Elementary School, Vashon	70
Monday, November 24	Northwood Junior High School, Fairwood	195
Thursday, January 15	Black Diamond Community Center	45
Thursday, January 22	Duvall Fire Station	82

Participants at each meeting were given several options for making comments. Oral comments were solicited by the presenters and recorded on both easel pads and note pads by staff members. Staff members also provided comment sheets to all attendees. These comment sheets could be turned in at the end of the meeting or returned by mail before January 31, 2004. Other contact information, such as e-mail addresses, mailing addresses, and fax numbers, was

provided by both written and oral means. As a result, staff members received more than 100 letters, comment sheets, and e-mails with comments on various aspects of the Comprehensive Plan update.

Summary

As noted above, participants' comments were directed at specific proposed changes within their communities. The following summary does not reflect all of the comments received on numerous subjects within the updated plan, but highlights areas of wider concern or support:

- Many elected officials and local jurisdictional staff members expressed concern about proposed language for potential annexation areas (PAAs), noting that there is a conflict between the proposed accelerated schedule and the need for PAA infrastructure investment.
- The mayor and numerous citizens of Duvall support the reclassification of Novelty Hill Road as a major arterial.
- Citizens at the Woodinville meeting were concerned about the upzoning of the Willows Road rural residential area to urban densities because of the impacts this could have on their adjacent neighborhoods.
- Vashon residents expressed support for proposals that allow for large horticultural centers and provide regulatory relief for small at-home businesses.
- A majority of participants in the Auburn meeting opposed upzoning the Auburn Lea Hill Urban Separator.
- A majority of participants in the Fairwood meeting supported the proposal to leave the East Fairwood/McGarvey Park area zoning as it is today.
- Participants in the Black Diamond meeting enthusiastically supported proposed additions to area trail systems for horses, pedestrians, and bicyclists.
- A majority of participants in the Duvall meeting enthusiastically supported rezoning the Duvall Rock Quarry to "rural residential."
- Several participants at the Duvall meeting raised issues related to the Critical Areas Ordinance. They objected to the proposed 300-foot stream buffers and required open spaces, and called for compensation because of these proposed regulations.